Government. A copy of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances G.M. No. 34011/1 (S)/97-Estt. (B) dated 2nd January, 1997 indicating the composition and terms of reference of the Group was laid on the Table of the House in reply to Unstarred Question No. 773 on 26th February, 1997 in Lok Sabha.

Status Paper on Wages in PSUs

1180. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised a status paper on wages and statutory dues to the workers of the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of representations received from Trade Unions in this regard and action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

White Paper on PSUs

1181. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Scope urges U.F. to present White Paper of PSUs" appearing in "Statesman dated December 14, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to issue a White paper on Public Sector Undertakings;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by when the White paper is likely to be released; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal to bring out any separate policy paper on the PSUs at present since the broad policy parameters have been spelt out in the Common Minimum Programme.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Textile Mills in West Bengal

1182. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister for TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills in West Bengal alongwith the production capacity;

(b) the number of workers engaged in these mills alongwith the number of workers rendered jobless due to closure of textile mills during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to revive sick textile mills of the State and rehabilitate the workers who have lost their jobs due to closure?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) There were 39 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills in the State of West Bengal, as on 31.12.96, having an installed capacity of 1142 thousand spindles, 3 thousand rotors and 7 thousand looms.

(b) There were 53 thousand workers on the rolls of these 39 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills in West Bengal, as on 31.12.96. The number of workers on the rolls of the closed textile mills in West Bengal at the end of the last three calender years, is as under :

Calender year end	No. of mills closed	No. of workers on the roll of such closed mills
1994	6	12,950
1995	7	17,987
1996	6	15,922

(c) The steps taken by the Central Government in the past, to revive sick textile mills include the setting up of a 'Nodal Agency' as per the Textile Policy of June 1985, creation of the Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme (TMFS) to take care of the modernisation needs of the textile industry and the enactment of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act (SICA) 1985 and establishment of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), with a view to arranging the timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for speedy determination by a board of experts (BIFR) of the preventive, ameliorative, remedial and other measures which need to be taken with respect to such companies. As on 31.1.97 there were 7 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills of West Bengal, registered with the BIFR.

In order to give relief to the workers affected by the closure of the textile mills, the Government established the Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS). So far, an amount of Rs. 84.61 crore was disbursed to 42,461 workers of 28 mills in India (position till 31.1.97). However, none of the closed mills in West Bengal was found eligible for relief under the textile TWRFS, so far.

Bank Leading

1183. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have directed that 50% of bank lending, including by the new private banks, should go to priority sectors.